

Remarks/Arguments

Claims 1-20 remain in this application.

The examiner has rejected claims 1-9, 11-17 and 20 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by *Glad* (United States Patent 6,863,554).

The examiner has rejected claims 10, 18 and 19 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Glad*.

In view of the above amendments and these remarks, reconsideration of the above noted rejections and objections is respectfully requested.

Rejections under 35 USC 102(b):

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of **claims 1-9, 11-17 and 20** under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by *Glad*. **Claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 8, 11 and 14** are independent and have been amended above.

Claims 1 and 3:

Amended independent **claim 1** recites:

and wherein, in the retracted position, a remote side of the multiple-connector apparatus is **flush with the sidewall**.

Additionally, amended independent **claim 3** recites:

a retractable, extendible port connector apparatus ...
having a remote side that is **flush with the sidewall** when in a retracted position.

Applicant respectfully submits that *Glad* does not teach or suggest these limitations. Instead, *Glad* appears to disclose a variety of different types of receptacle modules for receiving one or more plugs for use in a computer 8. Some of the receptacle modules are retractable/extendable back and forth. Fig. 1 of *Glad* is the only depiction of the receptacle module (in this case, modem card 118) as it is used with the computer 8. In this depiction, the modem card 118 is in a retracted position, but sticks partially out of the housing of the computer 8. It is clear from Fig. 1, therefore, that the modem card 118 is **not flush** with a sidewall of the computer 8 when in a

retracted position, contrary to the above recited portions of amended independent **claims 1 and 3**. Applicant respectfully submits, therefore, that amended independent **claims 1 and 3** are not anticipated by, are not obvious in view of, and are patentable over *Glad* at least because the reference does not teach or fairly suggest that a remote side of the receptacle module (e.g. modem card 118) can be flush with a sidewall of the computer 8 when in a retracted position.

Claims 5, 7 and 14:

Amended independent **claim 5** recites:

the changing means is **not fully detachable** from the housing means.

Additionally, amended independent **claim 7** recites:

the connector tray is **not removable** from the housing.

Also, amended independent **claim 14** recites:

a retractable multiple-connector apparatus that is **not detachable** from the computer system.

Applicant respectfully submits that *Glad* does not teach or suggest these limitations. Instead, *Glad* appears to disclose a variety of different types of receptacle modules for receiving one or more plugs for use in a computer 8. Some of the receptacle modules are retractable/extendable back and forth, but **all** of the receptacle modules are part of a "communications card" (e.g. 130, 150, 180, 250, 340, 351, 374, 390, 420, 440, 460, 461, 490, 530, 560, 569, 590, 650, 651 and 680) that complies with the PCMCIA (also known as PC Card) standards. (Disclosed throughout the specification of *Glad*, but see Column 8, lines 1-32.) The PCMCIA standards specify that compliant cards are **removable and detachable** from the host computer, contrary to the above recited portions of amended independent **claims 5, 7 and 14**. Applicant respectfully submits, therefore, that amended independent **claims 5, 7 and 14** are not anticipated by, are not obvious in view of, and are patentable over *Glad* at least because the reference does not teach or fairly suggest that the receptacle modules are not removable or detachable from the computer 8.

Claims 8 and 11:

Amended independent **claim 8** recites:

a connector tray having first and second portions
pivotably connected together;

...

an extension/retraction mechanism that locks the first
and second portions in a retracted position until released therefrom
and enables the released **first and second portions to extend to an
extended position** at which the second portion can pivot relative to
the first portion.

Additionally, amended independent **claim 11** recites:

providing the computer system with a **multiple-
connector tray with first and second portions** in a retracted position

...;

extending the multiple-connector tray to an extended
position relative to the housing ...; and

pivoting the second portion relative to the first portion

Applicant respectfully submits that *Glad* does not teach or suggest these limitations. Instead, *Glad* appears to disclose a variety of different types of receptacle modules for receiving one or more plugs for use in a computer 8. Some of the receptacle modules are retractable/extendable back and forth. Figs. 10 and 11 of *Glad* appear to disclose a receptacle module 181 with a body 184 that can pivot between retracted and extended positions relative to a communications card 180. (Column 12, lines 11-35.) Figs. 27-27D appear to disclose a communications card 460 with a rotatable and retractable member 462. The member 462 can retract into and extend out of the communications card 460 and can rotate relative to the communications card 460 when in the extended position. (Column 26, lines 43-47 and 63-64.) Figs. 29A and B appear to disclose a communications card 530 with a receptacle body 532 that can pivot into and out of the communications card 530. (Column 28, lines 60-63, and column 29, lines 15-30.)

In each of these disclosures in *Glad* having a pivoting or rotating member, the movable member (body 184, member 462 or body 532) has only **one portion** that moves between extended and retracted positions. That entire portion (i.e. the body

184, the member 462 or the body 532) does either the pivoting or the rotating, which occurs **relative to** an object (the communications card 180, 460 or 530) that is **stationary** in the computer 8. On the other hand, amended independent **claim 8**, as shown above, recites that **both** the first and second portions can extend from a retracted position to an extended position, at which the second portion can pivot relative to the first portion. Additionally, amended independent **claim 11**, as shown above, recites that the multiple-connector tray (including **both** the first and second portions) can be in a retracted position and extend to an extended position, and that the second portion can pivot relative to the first portion. Applicant respectfully submits, therefore, that amended independent **claims 8 and 11** are not anticipated by, are not obvious in view of, and are patentable over *Glad* at least because the reference does not teach or fairly suggest that a portion of the apparatus/tray is able to pivot relative to a portion that is able to be positioned in retracted and extended positions or that can move back and forth.

Dependent Claims:

Claims 2, 4, 6, 9, 12, 13, 15-17 and 20 depend directly or indirectly from amended independent claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 8, 11 and 14. Applicant respectfully submits, therefore, that dependent **claims 2, 4, 6, 9, 12, 13, 15-17 and 20** are not anticipated by, are not obvious in view of, and are patentable over *Glad* at least for the same reasons.

Rejections under 35 USC 103(a):

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of **claims 10, 18 and 19** under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Glad*. **Claims 10, 18 and 19** depend directly or indirectly from amended independent claims 8 and 14, which are not anticipated by, are not obvious in view of, and are patentable over *Glad* as discussed above. Applicant respectfully submits, therefore, that dependent **claims 10, 18 and 19** are not anticipated by, are not obvious in view of, and are patentable over *Glad* at least for the same reasons.

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For the reasons specifically discussed above, and others, it is believed that pending **claims 1-20** define patentable subject matter. Reconsideration of the previous rejections and objections as they might apply to the pending claims is therefore respectfully requested. Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

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Date

Respectfully submitted,



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